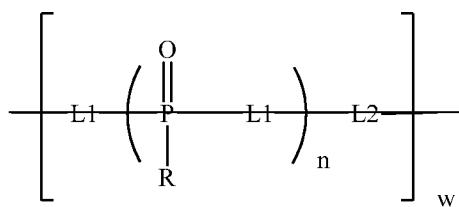


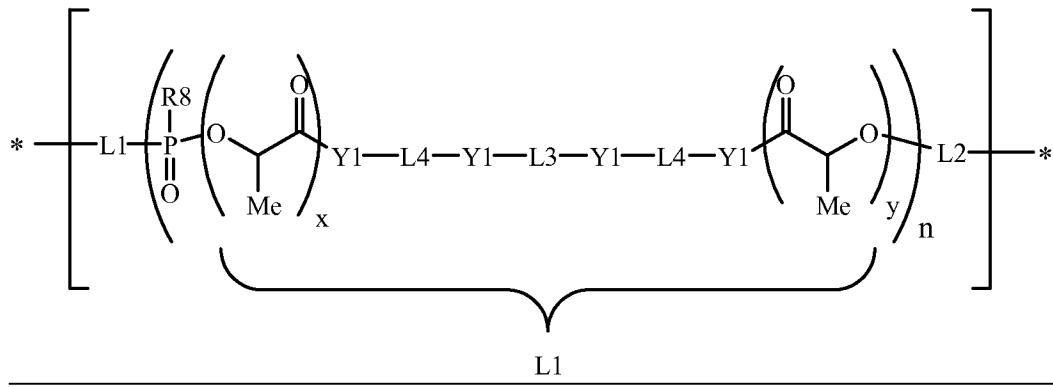
IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-34 (canceled)

35. (currently amended) A polyphosphoester polymer having a block structure, comprising: a monomer unit comprising a polylactide structure; a -P(R₈)(O)- group, where R₈ is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, -O-alkyl, -O-cycloalkyl, aryl, -O-aryl, heterocycle, -O-heterocycle; is equal to H, R1 or -O-R1; wherein R1 represents an alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl group; and a chemical moiety comprising a -C(O)- radical at each of its termini; and wherein said monomer unit is represented by formula (II):

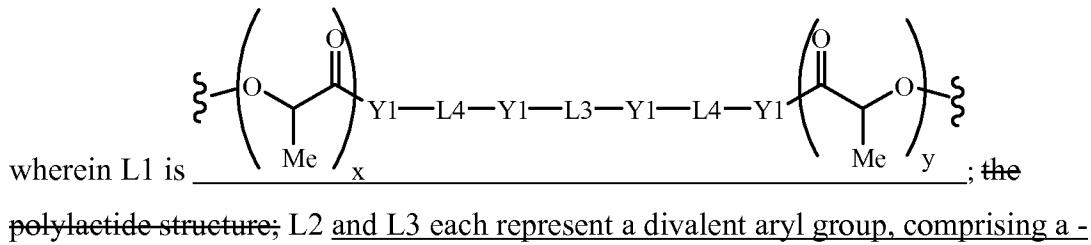


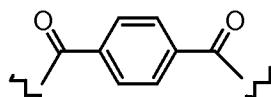
(II)



L1

(III)





C(O)- radicals at each of its termini, of the formula: L_4 is the chemical moiety comprising a $\text{C}(\text{O})-$ radicals at each of its termini; L_4 is a divalent branched or straight chain aliphatic group; Y_1 is O; x and y each independently represent integers in the range of about 1 to about 1000; and n and w independently of each other represent is an integer equal to at least one.

36. **(currently amended)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 35, wherein R₈ is -O-R₁-O-alkyl.
37. **(currently amended)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 36, wherein R₈ is an -O-ethyl group.
38. **(canceled)**
39. **(original)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 35, wherein said monomer comprises both aromatic and non-aromatic moieties.
40. **(currently amended)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 39, wherein the ratio of non-aromatic moieties to aromatic moieties is from about 2:1 to about 8:1 10:1.
41. **(currently amended)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 40 wherein said ratio of non-aromatic to aromatic moieties in the polyester is about 4:1 2:1.
42. **(currently amended)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 39, wherein the ratio of non-aromatic to aromatic moieties in said monomer unit is about 4:1; 2:1 and R₈ is -OC₂H₅; and said chemical moiety is $\text{C}(\text{O})\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{C}(\text{O})$.
43. **(original)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 39, wherein the number of non aromatic carbons in said monomeric units is greater than the number of aromatic ring carbons in said monomeric units.
44. **(original)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 39, wherein said polyphosphoester polymer is biodegradable.
45. **(original)** The polyphosphoester polymer of claim 39, wherein said polyphosphoester polymer is biocompatible.

46. **(original)** A composition comprising said polyphosphoester polymer of claim 45 and one or more biologically active agents.
47. **(original)** The composition of claim 46, wherein said composition is formulated in a pharmaceutically accepted carrier.
48. **(canceled)**
49. **(canceled)**
50. **(new)** The composition of claim 39, wherein the ratio of non-aromatic to aromatic moieties in said monomer unit is about 2:1 and R8 is -O(CH₂)₅CH₃.